

Appln No. 10/466,060
Amdt. Dated August 4, 2004
Response to Office action of June 7, 2004

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the non-final Office Action of June 7, 2004 the Applicant respectfully submits the following amendments and remarks against the Examiner's rejections.

Claim Objections

The Examiner has objected to claims 7 and 8 in relation to informalities associated with the claims not being numbered.

The Applicant has amended these claims such that they are now numbered correctly.

Claim Rejections

The Examiner has rejected claims 1 and 11 as being anticipated by US Patent No. 5,240,238 (Lee). The Examiner has indicated that Lee teaches a cartridge for insertion into a printing device that includes all the features of claims 1 and 11, however the Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner and requests that the Examiner reconsider this objection.

The present invention as described resides in a cartridge for insertion into a printer that incorporates the print media and the transportation mechanism in the one unit or housing. The benefits of providing such a cartridge are discussed in detail within the description but in essence ensure that the print media is fed out of the cartridge accurately and with minimal initial contamination.

The Lee citation does not provide, nor suggest, combining the transportation mechanism with the print media in the one casing. The Lee citation is directed towards minimising the installation space of an optional cassette used in an electrophotographic process engine by simplifying the configuration of the optional cassette and for removing jammed paper easily. As shown in Fig. 2, 3A and 3B, the system as proposed by Lee requires a number of individual cassettes which fit together to perform the function of the cartridge of the present invention. As shown, the media is supplied in a paper cassette 4, which is inserted into the optional cassette module 3. The paper cassette as shown is essentially an open topped tray upon which the paper is placed and biased towards the pick up roller to aid in the transportation of the individual sheets of paper, and therefore there is no print media exit opening formed in the paper cassette 4. The pick up roller 6 is contained in the optional cassette module 3 and is therefore remote from the paper cassette 4.

What is therefore taught by the Lee citation is the configuration of an optional cassette upon which an electrophotographic process engine can be installed, that employs a shorter transport path through which the paper can pass from the cassette to the engine which does not extend beyond the body of the engine and hence minimises space. There is no disclosure, nor is there intended to be any disclosure of a cartridge for insertion into a digital printing device which has a casing having a first portion for housing print media and a pickup roller assembly arranged at least partially within the first portion of the casing for transporting the sheets through an exit formed in the first portion of the housing.

It is therefore respectfully requested that the Examiner reconsider the rejection of claims 1 and 11 based upon the disclosure of Lee.

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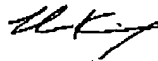
Double Patenting

The Applicant acknowledges the Examiner's comments regarding the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting and advises that a suitable terminal disclaimer will be filed upon receipt of notification of allowable subject matter

The Applicant submits that this response is fully responsive to all of the rejections raised in the Office Action. Accordingly, further reconsideration of the Application is respectfully requested.

Very respectfully,

Applicants:



TOBIN ALLEN KING



KIA SILVERBROOK

C/o: Silverbrook Research Pty Ltd
393 Darling Street
Balmain NSW 2041, Australia

Email: kia.silverbrook@silverbrookresearch.com

Telephone: +612 9818 6633

Facsimile: +61 2 9555 7762